(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) and (b) The Planning Commission works out a 15-year perspective plan for national development, on the basis of which detailed Five-Year Plans are prepared, this applies to the Science and Technology sector also. However, individual Central Ministries/agencies in the field of science and technology such as Departments of Atomic Energy, Space and Ocean Development, have prepared longer range decade profiles. Government approvals given for elements in such profiles are fully taken note of in the Five-Year Plans in these sectors. It is recognised that the time-cycle from scientific research to utilisation is a long one; and there is, therefore, need to initiate action, well in advance, to identify and ensure timely availability and delivery of new technologies. Procedures in this regard are being worked out for selected areas of national importance.

Death of Army Officers in the Everest Expedition

535. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigation was made into the circumstances under which four army officers of the Everest Expedition were frozen to death; and

(b) if so, what are the details of this tragedy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) An investigation was carried out to ascertain the circumstances in which some members of the Indian Army Everest Expedition 1985 lost their lives. One Officer, Maj. K.I. Kumar, died on 7th October, 1985 due to a fall of over 4000 feet, while four others (Maj. Jai Bahuguna, Capt. V.S. Negi, Lt. R.S. Bakshi and Lt. M.U.B. Rao) died due to a combination of exhaustion, dehydration and blizzard conditions on the night of 10/11th October, 1985.

Manufacture of Hydrogen Bomb by India

536. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what is Government's reaction to Jack Anderson's statement quoting C.I.A. reports, as published in the 'Times of India' of October 10, 1985, to the effect that India is going ahead with a hydrogen bomb?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : Government has already denied the statement of Mr. Anderson. India is not going ahead with a hydrogen bomb.

Indian Government request to U.S. for withdrawal of exemption to Pakistan

537. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have made a proposal to U.S. to withdraw Pakistan's current exemption from the Symington amendment prohibiting U.S. from providing aid to countries which are receiving from or delivering to other countries the nuclear enrichment equipment, material and technology with a view to dissuading Pakistan to procure/manufacture nuclear weapons and to acquire technology therefor; and

(b) if so, what is the U.S. Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Protection of Environment from Pollution

538. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what special measures Government propose to take to check environmental pollution during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : The measures taken include the following:—

—Implementation of Projects under the Ganga Action Plan ;

—Implementation of national standards for pollution control in major polluting industries;

—Enforcement of pollution control measures for vehicular exhaust;

—Environmental impact assessment development projects;

—Research for development of environmental pollution monitoring and control devices ; and

—Education, training and awareness programmes through non-formal media.

Appointment of Special Police Officers in Delhi

539. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to appoint special police officers from amongst public to augment the police force in the Capital ; and

(b) if so, what are the details in his regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATES (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the attached statement.

Statement

The duties and powers assigned to the Special Police Officers so appointed are listed below :

1. The Special Police Officer of the area will remain in touch with concerned DCP and meet him periodically.

2. The Special Police Officers so appointed are given powers to arrest any persons indulging in criminal activities under Section 41 of Cr. P.C. The action taken by the Spl. Police Officer shall be intimated to the concerned D.C.P. so that necessary legal action can be taken.

3. The Special Police Officer should make himself acquainted with the respectables of the locality and he should have first hand knowledge about the criminals of the area by their photographs and their brief history so that he may take prompt action in case they are involved in any criminal activity in that locality.

4. The Special Police Officer is duty bound to inform the DCP concerned,in case he notices any gathering of anti-social elements pick-pocket, illicit distillers, gambling den or movement of persons at odd hours in suspicious circumstances in the area.

5. The Special Police Officers so appointed are briefed about the henious offences like robbery decoity, snatching communal riots etc., which have taken place within last one year in that area.